

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A solid state image pickup device ~~being~~ provided with a photoelectric converter portion having a plurality of pixels disposed in a row, a charge transfer portion for transferring the charges generated in said photoelectric converter portion, a charge/voltage converter portion for converting the charges transferred by said charge transfer portion into voltages comprising:

~~— a timing pulse generator portion for generating at least more than one pulse signal type from among four pulse signals which are; a first pulse signal for driving said charge transfer portion, a second pulse signal for reading out the charges generated in said photoelectric converter portion, a third pulse signal for sweeping out the charges generated in said photoelectric converter portion, and a fourth pulse signal for discharging the charges transferred to said charge/voltage converter portion;~~

~~— a switch circuit for selectively connecting to a pulse generator output, a fixed voltage potential and a floating level for replacing, and~~

~~— wherein the switch circuit is connected to a terminal to which another pulse signal is inputted, the pulse signals being replaced.~~

a transfer register;

a first switch connected to selectively apply a first pulse signal or a floating level to a first input of the transfer register; and
a second switch connected to selectively apply a second pulse signal or a fixed voltage level to a second input of the transfer register.

2. (Previously Presented) A method for driving the horizontal read-out of a solid state image pickup device provided with a photoelectric converter portion having a plurality of pixels in a row, a charge transfer portion for transferring the charges generated in said photoelectric converter portion, a charge/voltage converter portion for converting the charges transferred by said charge transfer portion into voltages, wherein

in a first mode, applying a first pulse signal for driving said charge transfer portion, a second pulse signal for reading out the charges generated in said photoelectric converter portion, a third pulse signal for sweeping out the charges generated in said photoelectric converter portion, and a fourth pulse signal for discharging the charges transferred to said charge/voltage converter portion are selectively supplied to said solid state image pickup device,

in a second mode, selectively replacing at least one of ~~all of the drive~~ first through fourth pulse signals with ~~either a predetermined fixed potential or~~ a floating level and wherein another driving pulse is applied to the input at which the pulse signal is replaced with floating level, the driving pulse being replaced.

3. (Previously Presented) A method for driving the horizontal read-out of a solid state image pickup device provided with a plurality of photoelectric converter portions being composed of a plurality of pixels in a row, and a plurality of charge transfer portions for transferring the charges generated in respective rows of pixels in the plurality of photoelectric converter portions, wherein,

a switch circuit selects between two modes, comprising:

a first mode in which the switch circuit passes drive pulses generated by a pulse generator to the charge transfer portions, or

a second mode in which the switch circuit replaces ~~all of~~ the drive pulses with either a ~~predetermined fixed potential~~ or a floating level, wherein

another driving pulse is applied to the input at which the driving pulse is replaced with the floating level, the driving pulse being replaced.

4. (Previously Presented) The solid state image pickup device of claim 1, wherein all of the drive pulse signals are replaced.

5. (Previously Presented) A solid state image pickup device being provided with a photoelectric converter portion having a plurality of pixels in a row, a charge transfer portion having a plurality of rows of transfer elements for transferring the charges generated in said

photoelectric converter portion, a charge/voltage converter portion for converting the charges transferred by said charge transfer portion into voltages, wherein further comprising:

~~a timing pulse generator portion for generating at least more than one pulse signal type from among four pulse signals which are; a first pulse signal for driving said charge transfer portion, a second pulse signal for reading out the charges generated in said photoelectric converter portion, a third pulse signal for sweeping out the charges generated in said photoelectric converter portion, and a fourth pulse signal for discharging the charges transferred to said charge/voltage converter portion, and~~

~~—— a switch circuit for selectively replacing the driving pulses with either a predetermined fixed potential or a floating level,~~

~~—— wherein at least one row of said transfer elements is halted, the driving pulses being replaced.~~

a transfer register;

a first switch connected to selectively apply a first pulse signal or a floating level to a first input of the transfer register; and

a second switch connected to selectively apply a second pulse signal or a floating level to a second input of the transfer register.

6. (Previously Presented) A solid-state image pick-up device comprising:

a timing pulse generator;

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a signal transfer device and ~~at least one switch circuit~~ switching circuitry connected between the timing pulse generator and the signal transfer device wherein the switching circuitry ~~switch circuit~~ selectively connects one of an output from the timing pulse generator, a fixed voltage level and a floating level to an input of the signal transfer device.